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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 18, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 13 totaled 344,574, down 0.8 percent from the comparable week of 1988, and 0.3 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 1.7 percent in the East, but down 3.8 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, coal was up 8,418 cars (7.1 percent), and loadings of chemicals rose 2,335 cars (9.0 percent). Grain loadings were down 7,778 cars (23.7 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 19 weeks of 1989 totaled 6,387,140, up 0.5 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 112,641 trailers and/or containers for the week ended May 13, up 0.4 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 19 weeks of 1989 was 2,134,548 trailers and/or containers, up 1.7 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended May 13 totaled 19.7 billion, 0.5 percent above the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 19 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 368.3 billion ton-miles, up 1.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 13, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MAY 13, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	25,107	32,885	-23.7 %	26,372	-4.8 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,519	2,102	-27.7	1,514	.3
Metallic Ores	21,282	20,751	2.6	21,031	1.2
Coal	127,200	118,782	7.1	126,416	.6
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	17,054	18,660	-8.6	16,660	2.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,521	10,847	-3.0	11,030	-4.6
Grain Mill Products	10,104	10,294	-1.8	10,299	-1.9
Food & Kindred Products	8,868	9,015	-1.6	8,668	2.3
Primary Forest Products	9,059	9,819	-7.7	9,118	-.6
Lumber & Wood Products	6,603	7,546	-12.5	6,768	-2.4
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,152	10,960	-7.4	10,142	.1
Chemicals	28,273	25,938	9.0	28,672	-1.4
Petroleum Products	4,925	4,955	-.6	4,981	-1.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,657	11,189	-4.8	10,515	1.4
Coke	5,577	6,019	-7.3	5,505	1.3
Metals & Products	9,702	9,788	-.9	10,104	-4.0
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	21,192	21,258	-.3	21,467	-1.3
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,525	9,533	-.1	8,989	6.0
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	4	16	-75.0	17	-76.5
All Other Carloads	7,250	7,122	1.8	7,310	-.8
Total	**344,574**	**347,479**	**-.8 %**	**345,578**	**-.3 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MAY 13, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 19 WEEKS ENDING MAY 13, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**344,574**	**347,479**	**-.8 %**	**6,387,140**	**6,355,117**	**.5 %**
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	65,900	67,658	-2.6	1,243,016	1,275,706	-2.6
Containers	46,741	44,577	4.9	891,532	823,459	8.3
Total	**112,641**	**112,235**	**.4**	**2,134,548**	**2,099,165**	**1.7**
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.7**	**19.6**	**.5 %**	**368.3**	**364.2**	**1.1 %**

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